

Promoting Your Child's Development: Information Resources for Families of Children with Disabilities

Section on Pediatrics FACT SHEET



PEDIATRICS

AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

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Toolkit for Parents on Early Development

www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/actearly

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities have produced a toolkit to help parents learn about the milestones in their children's growth, from birth to age 5 years, as well as developmental delays and other disabilities. The "Learn the Signs Act Early" campaign and toolkit are designed to help parents recognize any delays so that their children can be screened and receive early treatment, if necessary. Available in both English and Spanish, the toolkit includes an informational card on developmental milestones, a growth chart, and a series of fact sheets on milestones and developmental and behavioral delays. These materials can be downloaded from the Web site or ordered in bulk.

BAM! Body and Mind

www.bam.gov

This Web site, developed by the Centers for Disease Control, provides child- and youth-friendly information about disease, food and nutrition, physical activity, and safety as it relates to a young person's life and body.

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)

www.nichcy.org

This center offers a wealth of information for children with disabilities, including links to disability-related topics, such as national disability organizations, state resources, resource libraries, national and regional conferences, and information related to special education.

Born Learning Campaign

www.bornlearning.org

The United Way of America, partnering with the Ad Council and Civitas, created a Web site that helps parents, caregivers, and communities create high-quality early learning opportunities using everyday events for young children. The Web site provides comprehensive developmental information on children from birth to 5 years of age.

The Family Village Project at the Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison

www.familyvillage.wisc.edu

This Web site integrates information, resources, and communication opportunities on the Internet for children and adults with disabilities or chronic health conditions, for their families, and for those that provide services and support. The site includes informational resources on more than 300 specific diagnoses, communication connections, adaptive products and technology, adaptive recreational activities, education, worship, health issues, and disability-related media and literature.

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Pacer Center - Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights

www.pacer.org

The center was created by parents with children with disabilities to help other parents with similar experiences. The site offers a wealth of resources, including associated links, newsletters, and publications on issues related to special education and disability.

Zero to Three

www.zerotothree.org

Zero to Three is a national nonprofit organization whose purpose is to promote the healthy development of our nation's infants and toddlers by supporting and strengthening families, communities, and those who work on their behalf. Examples of resources on their Web site include an extensive list of parenting topics and downloadable booklets that show families how to make meaningful opportunities out of everyday moments. Additional information helps families and caregivers understand current research of brain development in the context of relationships and more.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

www.aap.org

This organization's Web site provides a "Parenting Corner" link that offers featured topics for families about specific diagnoses, safety and health topics, parenting, and publications to promote development.

Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)

www.pbs.org/parents/childdevelopment

The PBS Web site provides a parent guide to child development that includes parenting advice, a child development tracker, fun learning activities for different ages, school-age topics, and links to PBS specials.

March of Dimes (MOD)

www.marchofdimes.com

The MOD Web site offers a wealth of information about pregnancy, your newborn, prematurity, and birth defects. It also provides links to local chapters and related resources.

Pathways Awareness Organization

www.pathwaysawareness.org

This organization's Web site provides valuable information for parents regarding the benefit of early detection and early therapy for children with physical movement differences. It also offers downloadable information about children's physical development (ages 3 to 15 months).

AblePlay

www.ableplay.org

Developed by the National Lekotek Center, AblePlay™ is a toy rating system and Web site that provides comprehensive information on toys for children with special needs, so parents, special educators, therapists, and others can make the best choices. Toys are categorized according to disability and age group.

CanChild Centre for Childhood Disability Research

www.canchild.ca

The focus of this organization is to support research on children and youth with disabilities within communities where they live. Links on the Web site for families and providers offer comprehensive summaries of research findings that relate to improved quality of life for families and children.

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APTA
American Physical Therapy Association
The Science of Healing. The Art of Caring.

Section on Pediatrics, American Physical Therapy Association

www.pediatricapta.org

From the home page of the Section on Pediatrics of APTA, you can link to the APTA site to search for current research by topic in a variety of medical journals. You can also search for a physical therapist in your area who has passed the specialist certification exam in pediatrics. Visit the Consumer Resources area of the Web site to "Find a PT" by specialty and location, to access a variety of brochures created by the Section, to view a PowerPoint presentation about pediatric physical therapy, and for additional Web sites that may be useful.

For More Information

If you have additional questions, would like to order additional copies of this fact sheet, or would like to join the Section on Pediatrics, please contact the Executive Office of the Section on Pediatrics of the American Physical Therapy Association at:

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